

Memo

To: Village President and Board of Trustees
From: Pamela A. Cools, Vice Chairman & the Plan Commission
cc: Village Clerk
Date: August 11, 2016
Re: Review of Municipal Property Usage, Route 25

Some time ago, the Plan Commission was tasked with discussing possible public purpose for the Village-owned property located on the east side of State Route 25 (Elgin Road). Our goal was to find a public use which had a minimal cost to establish, with minimal upkeep, to be maintained by community volunteers. The Commission reviewed a number of options, looking for recreational, educational or conservation based ideas, i.e. sports field, dog park, community garden, butterfly garden, etc.

After much analysis, the Plan Commission has come to the conclusion that, due to the remote location, lack of utilities at the site, absence of fences or parking, and the potential for trespassing or misuse, it would be extremely difficult to find an inexpensive, passive use for this parcel of land which would not require a substantial initial investment, or present difficulties in upkeep. Even then, it is unlikely that village residents would be the primary users of this property.

Our recommendation is that the Village should strongly consider selling the property, unless the ownership of this property would provide Barrington Hills some strategic or legal leverage in future planning matters. If retention of this property is determined to be beneficial, it would be our suggestion to leave the land fallow as it currently is.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Cools
Vice Chairman, Plan Commission
Village of Barrington Hills